

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A steering control apparatus centers a vehicle steer wheel movable away from a selected
5 center position and includes a rotary member having a face with centering detents, a piston
member having a face arranged opposite to the rotary member face with a centering detent
aligned with each rotary member detent when the rotary member is center. Bearing members are
resiliently pressed between the rotary and piston members, and each is arranged to be in contact
with a seat of each of the aligned detents when the steer wheel is centered and to move out of the
10 seats when the rotary member rotates relative to the piston member in response to steering
movements by the vehicle driver. Each of the detents includes opposing ramps sloped up from
the seat to a track in the corresponding face, and the ramps and tracks may be formed as grooves
having substantially the same radius as the bearing members. The piston member is rotatively
connected to a clutch disk remotely releasable from a fixed clutch ring so that the piston member
15 detents can be moved to a different static position to change the selected center position.